

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building 1 Federal Drive Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056

MAY 1 4 2007

Dear Reviewer:

We are pleased to provide you with this Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge.

Established in 1936, the 6,226-acre Refuge provides resting and feeding habitat for thousands of waterfowl and other birds during spring and fall. The Refuge also includes more than 700 acres of rolling, sandy upland being managed for native prairie and oak savanna, habitat types that are becoming scarce in Wisconsin.

Once completed, the CCP will guide management for the next 15 years and will help the Refuge meet its original purpose and contribute to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The CCP will provide both broad and specific guidance on various issues; set a vision, goals, and measurable objectives; and outline strategies for reaching those objectives.

We invite your review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Comprehensive Conservation Plan and, most importantly, your comment and counsel to help ensure that the final CCP is both visionary and practical. We will host an open house where you will be able to ask questions, seek understanding, and voice concerns and suggestions. A meeting date and location will be announced through the media and other means.

Written comments are also welcome during the 60-day comment period and should be addressed to: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Trempealeau NWR, Attn.: CCP Comment, W28488 Refuge Road, Trempealeau, WI, 54661. You may also send comments to us through the following web address: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/planning/Trempealeau. To be considered in preparing the Final EIS/CCP, comments must be received by August 3, 2007.

We look forward to continuing the dialogue on the future of the Refuge, and thank you for your continued interest in keeping this Refuge a special place for wildlife and people.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Larson

Chief, Conservation Planning

Thomas Jenson